

Abstract of the Disclosure

5                   An improved process for manufacture of polymer coated composite  
substrates is described. a coated composite substrate is prepared in the press by  
applying a layer of a primer coating composition to the surface of a compressible mat  
comprising fibers and/or particles and a resin binder. The primer coating composition  
is formulated preferably as a fast setting polymer latex capable of forming a  
10 chemically crosslinked polymer matrix when applied to the surface of a compressible  
mat. a thermosetting top coat composition can be applied directly over the wet primer  
coating composition before heat-processing the mat to improve surface quality and  
release characteristics. Compressing and heating the coated mat produces a primed  
composite substrate directly out of the press.